



BOTANICAL SOCIETY OF AMERICA

BSA Public Policy Award

Supporting early-career botanical scientists to attend Congressional Visits Day in Washington, DC

Applications due January 31, 2015

The BSA Public Policy Committee invites applications for the first annual BSA Public Policy Award. The award covers domestic airfare and accommodation expenses for two early-career botanical scientists to attend Congressional Visits Day in Washington, D.C., held in late March or early April, 2015. Award winners will also be featured in the Plant Science Bulletin and the BSA web page.

Congressional Visits Day is sponsored by the Biological and Ecological Sciences Coalition (BESC), American Institute of Biological Sciences (AIBS), and the Ecological Society of America (ESA). The first day includes a training session on how to effectively communicate with public policymakers, and the second day participants meet with their Congressional policymakers to advocate for federal support of scientific research. To read about BSA student representatives' experiences in 2012, visit the link below:

<http://www.botany.org/news/studentnews-120417.php>

The award is open to all BSA members, but preference will be given to those who are in the first two years of a permanent position, postdocs, and students (graduate or undergraduate). **Applicants must also be U.S. citizens.**

For questions about the award, email Marian Chau at mmchau@hawaii.edu.

Application requirements:

- 1) State your name, career stage, current affiliation, and email address.
- 2) Why are you interested in becoming involved in public policy?
- 3) How will attending Congressional Visits Day impact you at this stage in your career?
- 4) Give an example of botanically related research in your (current) home state that represents a good investment of federal funding. How do the results of that research benefit your home state (e.g, impacts on education, the environment and the economy including number of jobs created)?

Please limit your application to two pages in total and send it as a .pdf file to: wdahl@botany.org.

You will receive an email confirmation that your application has been received.

Thank you – BSA Public Policy Committee